

From: Daphanie M. Mullins
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/14/01 11:20am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

----- Original Message -----

From: "George Wagner" <gwagner@macconnect.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 21, 2001 9:23 AM
Subject: More on the Microsoft settlement

> After reading more on the Microsoft settlement, I am even more
> concerned. While the point of this was to reduce or eliminate
> Microsoft's use of their monopoly to expand its markets, the settlement
> forces them to do just that. It has Microsoft providing hardware,
> software, and training for schools. While I am all for helping out
> schools, all this does is increase Microsoft's marketshare, and in the
> long run makes them more money than it costs through upgrades and
> replacements. Providing straight funding with no strings attached would
> allow the schools to use the funds for whatever the SCHOOL decides is
> needed.
>
> Additionally, the settlement doesn't appear to address any of
> Microsoft's new markets such as Internet transactions, Microsoft could
> be paid a fee for every transaction made with the computer. This could
> be huge. In addition, their software license agreement borders on a
> protection racket, dealing with the software as more of a lease than a
> purchase.
>
> Microsoft's foray into the game console's is another example where their
> sheer force has made them a contender in a market where they have had no
> reputation. Had it not been for their monopoly, there would have only
> been moderate interest until the product actually hit the market.
>
> There are other examples, but I am sure that you get the idea, and I
> hope that you are able to do something about it.
>
> George Wagner
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